

USACE FINANCE CENTER
BIWEEKLY REPORT
PERIOD ENDING 23 JUNE 2000

CEFMS:

a. CEFMS users are experiencing a problem with the "print screen" capability. They click on Action, then Print and the page comes out of the printer blank. The problem is a result of the way Java talks to a windows printer driver that uses Printer Control Language (PCL). This occurs at the Oracle Forms level when working with web-based forms. Oracle changed the way forms calls Java to call a printer driver and this, in turn, exposed a latent bug in the Hewlett-Packard (HP) PCL-based printer drivers. The Oracle driver call change was done to resolve several print issues. Hewlett-Packard is working on updating their PCL printer drivers. So far, there are two non-HP PCL vendors (Lexmark, IBM) that are experiencing this problem as well. It is presumed that they are working on updating their PCL drivers as well.

Several factors come into play in triggering this problem: Printer Make/Model, printer driver and version, Operating System, printer memory, and printer resolution (DPI). It is not believed that printer memory is a significant problem.

At the present time, no code changes to CEFMS forms or the CEFMS print system will resolve the problem. Hewlett-Packard, and other vendors, are working on releasing updated PCL printer drivers. Oracle is working with Hewlett-Packard on resolving this problem.

We, CEFMS, are tracking the various factors: printer, driver version, etc., to help determine under what circumstances the blank page problem occurs. We are also developing workarounds.

b. On 15 June 2000 we closed all CEFMS problem reports that existed prior to our fielding of the CEFMS GUI version. These problem reports were closed with a 4 June 2000 effective date. We also established a new option on the Problem Reporting Menu named **Reinstate Customer Inquiries/PRs for our site** POCs. They can select this option and see the problem reports for their EROC that were closed effective 4 June 2000, along with the description of the problem report. They are reviewing these PR's to determine if these problems still exist in the GUI system. If they are valid, the POC will check the box next to the PR to re-open it. This window of opportunity will be available for a two-week period beginning 16 June 2000, and ending on 30 June 2000.

After the 30 June 2000 date, site POCs will be required to establish a new PR for problems that exist in the GUI CEFMS.

PROBLEM REPORTS/IMBALANCES:

a. The open problem report inventory is 492 versus 792 on the last report. The large reduction in the number of open problem reports relates to the "purification" we performed after implementation of the CEFMS GUI. The inventory includes 69 Priority #1 problem reports. The open inventory also includes 8 problem reports related to the CEFMS Modernization/GUI work management effort.

b. Forty-eight (48) of the sixty-two active databases have no imbalances, nine (9) have one, one (1) has two, two (2) have three, one (1) has six, and one (1) have nine the highest number of imbalances. The grand total of database imbalances across the system is 32 versus 44 on the last report.

ACCOUNTING OPERATIONS:

CONSOLIDATION OF OPERATING FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING FUNCTIONS:

UPCOMING CONSOLIDATIONS:

----CURRENT SCHEDULE COMPLETE----

NUMBER AND LOCATION OF ON BOARD PERSONNEL:

LOCATION:	NUMBER:
Huntsville	25
Millington	292
Washington	1
Other	1
Total	319

DISBURSING WORKLOAD DATA:

PAYMENTS	As of 05/31/00	Current Month	Year To Date
BY CHECK:			
Checks Issued	200,490	16,674	217,164
Percent of Total	50%	44%	49.6%
Dollar Amount	\$2,190,289,914	\$157,091,286	\$2,347,381,200
BY EFT:			
Transfers Made	199,889	20,983	220,872
Percent of Total	50%	56%	50.4%

Dollar Amount \$3,555,324,608 \$361,866,862 \$3,917,191,470

OTHER UFC ISSUES:

a. This week we successfully upgraded IATS to version 5.3 and completed testing in a live environment. There was little impact to USACE in this release, however any changes to IATS must be tested at the Finance Center to ensure the interface with CEFMS is not adversely affected. IATS version 5.3 will be released to POD and TAC in August.

b. The Accounting Operations Directorate has completed its annual review of CEFMS access permissions, which require the issuance of delegation letters, and has issued letters to appropriate individuals. Defense Finance and Accounting Service regulations and Department of Defense Financial Management regulations require that the authorization to perform voucher certification and disbursement and collection approval actions be documented in writing. In addition to granting the named employee the authority to perform a certification or disbursement/collection function, the letters also advise the employee of potential liabilities should he/she misuse their authority or not exercise due care in the performance of their duties. USACE Finance Center employees having any of the following CEFMS access permissions are issued delegation letters; disbursing officer/deputy disbursing officer, disbursing authorization, collection authorization, receipt voucher certifier, government order certifier, and travel settlement voucher certifier.

c. Accounting Operations Directorate personnel are in the process of revising and updating debt collection procedures where salary offset is utilized to effect repayment. The revisions will be made to Standing Operating Procedure (SOP) number UFC-10 - Accounts Receivable/Delinquent Debt Follow-up - and should be completed in the next 30 days. The updated SOP will include more detailed information on processing voluntary and involuntary offsets, minimum and maximum offset dollar amounts, and time limits for repayments. The SOP will also designate responsibilities for completion and submission of required forms and documentation.

d. We completed Phase II of the annual Joint Review Program and submitted the required certification statement to HQUSACE. All adjustments have been made to obligations, commitments, accounts payable, and customer orders resulting from this review.

e. Two UFC representatives attended the meeting of the Managerial Accounting Work Group in Vicksburg this week. Major

issues covered during the meeting included compilation of a list of competencies and establishment of a training curriculum for managerial accountants.

f. UFC representatives attended the first meeting of the Naval Support Activity Mid-South (NSA) Cultural Awareness Committee this week. This committee was established by the NSA Commander to promote joint observances for cultural awareness programs among all tenants here on the Navy base in Millington. (We are also participating in and attending the monthly tenant command meetings held by the NSA Commander. The purpose of these meetings is to keep tenant commands updated on relevant base activities and to discuss issues of mutual concern among tenant commands.)